



FISHBOURNE READS

OUR READING FOR PLEASURE NEWSLETTER



Summer 2023—Graphic Novels



We start our special edition of Fishbourne Reads with an update from our wonderful Patron of Reading, Sophy Henn who is going to introduce us to our theme for this edition - Graphic Novels!

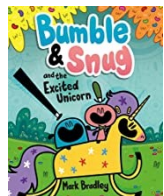
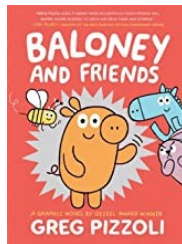
Hello to all you wonderful little and big fish!

Well, it's been a while and I am sorry for that but I will fill you in all my goings on when I see you next

(hopefully very soon!). One of the things that has been keeping me super busy is my new graphic novel series, which I shared with you when I last visited. It has a new name now though - Happy Hills! I hope you like it? Anyway, I have just finished the second draft and hopefully I will start drawing it properly soon as there are A LOT of drawings to be done!!!

More of that when I visit, but in the meantime I thought I would share some of my favourite graphic novels with you...

Baloney and Friends Series by Greg Pizzoli - 4-8 years - A great series of graphic novels for younger (and older and much older) readers. There are only four characters - Baloney, Peanut, Bizz and a grumpy rabbit called Rabbit - but their gentle, close to home and hilarious adventures are potentially endless. I HIGHLY recommend them.



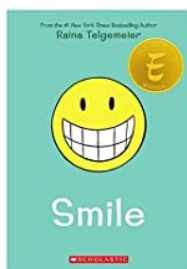
Bumble and Snug Series by Mark Bradley - 5-9 years - I have watched Mark develop this series on twitter over the past 8 or so years and I am so happy these brilliant, funny and warm characters are getting the love they deserve. Funny, silly but with real heart - wonderful!

Looshkin by Jamie Smart - 7-9 years - Well, some of you might have heard about Jamie Smart he's been doing some books called Bunny Vs Monkey???? Heard of them? OF COURSE YOU HAVE!!! Here is another series this comic GENIUS has come up with based on his comic strips about a totally BONKERS cat called Looshkin. Expect chaos, LOLS and more chaos.



Roller Girl by Victoria Jamieson - 8-11 years- I know, I have recommended it before, but it is GREAT, features roller skates and also brilliant socks so you should definitely read it!

Smile by Rainier Telgemeier - 9-13 years - This one is for slightly older readers so parents and teachers might want to have a read before handing it over to check they are happy with the content. But Rainier is a total master of middle grade graphic novels about day to day school life so well worth a look.



So there you go! I hope at least one appeals to you and don't be put off by the ages I have suggested, they are just a guide and I can confirm as an almost 50 year old I love them all! See you soon!

Sophy Henn

So what is a graphic novel?

A graphic novel is essentially a story told through pictures or illustrations. Sometimes there are words included too! Graphic novels are amazing for all readers and give us the opportunity to use our imaginations, our vocabulary and knowledge of the world to tell stories.



One of my favourite authors of graphic novels is Brian Selznick who has written four BRILLIANT books which are suited for children in Year 3 and upwards... One of the things I love about Brian's books is that he combines illustrations AND words which weave together to tell two stories that merge together at the end of the book. He is so clever that, as a reader, you don't even

notice when you stop reading words and start reading illustrations! Here are a couple of my favourites:

THE INVENTION OF HUGO CABRET:

Orphan, clock keeper, and thief, Hugo lives in the walls of a busy Paris train station, where his survival depends on secrets and anonymity. But when his world suddenly interlocks with an eccentric, bookish girl and a bitter old man who runs a toy booth in the station, Hugo's undercover life and his most precious secret are put in jeopardy. A cryptic drawing, a treasured notebook, a stolen key, a mechanical man, and a hidden message from Hugo's dead father form the backbone of this intricate, tender, and spellbinding mystery.



This book has also been made into a brilliant film, simply called 'Hugo'.



WONDERSTRUCK

Ever since his mother died, Ben feels lost. At home with her father, Rose feels alone. Ben and Rose secretly wish their lives were different. Ben longs for the father he has never known. Rose dreams of a mysterious actress whose life she chronicles in a scrapbook. When Ben discovers a puzzling clue in his mother's room and Rose reads an enticing headline in the newspaper, both children set out alone on desperate quests to find what they are missing. Set fifty years apart, these two independent stories Ben's told in words, Rose's in pictures--

weave back and forth with mesmerizing symmetry. How they unfold and ultimately intertwine will surprise you, challenge you, and leave you breathless with wonder.

We have got copies of both these fabulous books in our school library, so why not dip your toe in and have an explore to see if it something that may appeal to you!

Onjali Rauf's visit to Fishbourne Primary



Onjali Rauf's visit to our school was A-B-S-O-L-U-T-E-L-Y amazing and we were so thrilled to be able to welcome her for the morning to spend time with our little fish. We have asked a couple of children to share their reflections about Onjali's visit:

Tiffany-May:

Having ONJALI Q. RAUF come in and visit Fishbourne School is a once in a lifetime experience! She didn't just tell us about being an author but talked about her job, which is being an activist and feminist, and how hard it is to be a refugee. As a School we decided to donate either toothbrushes and toothpaste, new socks, packets of tissues, wet wipes, lollipops or small chocolates. Not only that, we have also given ONJALI her own book called ONLY ONE YOU to show her we're very grateful for her coming.

"Refugees are currently struggling a lot since so few people are getting involved to make a difference," explained ONJALI. She then described the experience she had had in France and the horrific living conditions of the refugees. ONJALI told us how she thought she could make a difference but needed some help along the way. ONJALI is a distant part of our Fishbourne community having all five qualities of our School, which are: courageous because of the courage to help at all the different camps, determined because she never gives up, reflective because she has thought about her past and made a difference, positive because she believes that change can happen and collaborative because she works with others to achieve her goals. Through this ONJALI is making the world a better place to be. A message I took away from the assembly is to be there for others in their time of need and help in any way I can when things are hard. What would you take away from the assembly?

Rafferty:

Onjali Q Rauf made me realise that there are lots of ways to make the world a better place. Whether it is raising money or helping people in need of help. Onjali raises money and asks if people can donate toothbrushes, toothpaste, food and socks. Then she travels to refugee camps and gives all donations to the refugees. It is very dangerous travelling into war zones so Onjali is very brave. Onjali will meet refugees and sometimes keep in touch with them over the phone. She also has a team of volunteers who help donate and deliver all the essentials to all the poor families struggling to survive in the camps. Onjali is really amazing because as well as donating to refugees she also writes children's books. She has written Hope on the Horizon, Night Bus Hero, The boy at the back of the class and Star Outside my Window. What an AMAZING person!

Teddy:

Onjali Rauf's visit to our school was very exciting because she is an activist and a feminist. She came into our school so she could talk to us about Refugees. Onjali told us that Refugees come from all over the world struggling to get to safety. Also she told us that if a woman was pregnant, that baby could never have a birth certificate, so he or she could not get a drivers license, or a passport or be a doctor. To help them as a school, we donate socks, toothbrushes and good. To help Refugees, as a country, we should give them homes, money and passports.

As well as being a campaigner, Onjali is an author! She has written some awesome books about Refugees and books about how to make the world better. I've read Hope on the Horizon, Boy at the back of the class and just started reading Night Bus Hero. I've loved meeting her and I hope she keeps writing books and making the world a better place to be!

If you haven't yet read one of Onjali's books, then we cannot recommend them highly enough for both children and adults—they are perfect to share together and give rise to some really interesting discussions! They are beautifully and powerfully written and such an important learning opportunity.

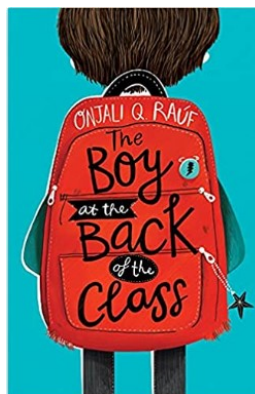
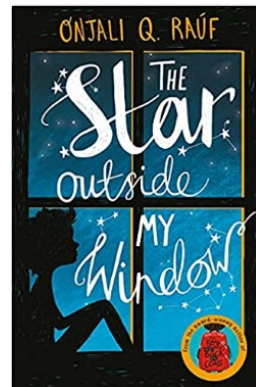
THE STAR OUTSIDE MY WINDOW

'I've always wanted to be a Star Hunter. But I don't want to be the kind that looks for old stars that have already been burning for millions of years. I want to find the brand new ones - the ones that have only just been born and are searching for the people they've left behind....'

Following the disappearance of her mum, 10-year-old Aniyah suddenly finds herself living in foster care. With her life in disarray, she knows just one thing for sure: her mum isn't gone for ever. Because people with the brightest hearts never truly leave. They become stars.

So when a new star is spotted acting strangely in the sky, Aniyah is sure it's her mum, and she embarks on the adventure of a lifetime to make sure everyone else knows, too - an adventure that involves breaking into the Royal Observatory of London, a mischievous scurry of squirrels and the biggest star in Hollywood...

Told through the innocent voice of a child, this is a story that explores the subtle faces and endless impacts of domestic violence and celebrates the power of hope and resilience.



THE BOY AT THE BACK OF THE CLASS

The Boy at the Back of the Class is a child's perspective on the refugee crisis, highlighting the importance of friendship and kindness in a world that doesn't always make sense.

There used to be an empty chair at the back of my class, but now a new boy called Ahmet is sitting in it.

He's nine years old (just like me), but he's very strange. He never talks and never smiles and doesn't like sweets - not even lemon sherbets, which are my favourite!

But then I learned the truth: Ahmet really isn't very strange at all. He's a refugee who's run away from a War. A real one. With bombs and fires and bullies that hurt people. And the more I find out about him, the more I want to help. That's where my best friends Josie, Michael and Tom come in. Because you see, together we've come up with a plan.

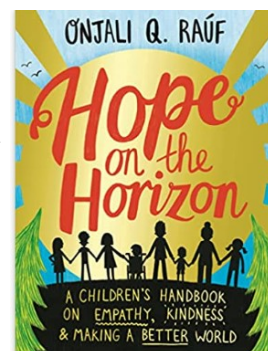
HOPE ON THE HORIZON

No one is too small to make a change.

Growing up, there is so much out of our control and to feel frustrated about. But in this inspiring and practical handbook, bestselling children's author and Human Rights campaigner, Onjali Rauf, shares her top ten ways for finding hope, creating change and making a difference.

With the help of her favourite fictional characters and some of the most inspiring people she has ever met, Onjali invites readers to dive in and discover everything there is to know about kindness, empathy, friendship and fighting for the things that matter. (Plus, cool stuff like X-ray vision and detecting negative forces. Yes!)

Because with a bit of compassion, a big dollop of hope and even the smallest act of kindness, magical things can happen. Hope is on the horizon; here's how children everywhere can find it.



Can you help?

We would absolutely **love** to hear about what you have been reading! Could you review one of the books you've read and send it to: head@fishbourneprimary.co.uk

We would be delighted to include it in the next edition!